APPENDIX

In the Claims:

40. (Amended) A transgenic mouse all of whose germ cells and somatic cells contain a DNA sequence comprising a promoter of the β2-subunit of neuronal nicotinic acetylcholine receptor having the sequence from about nucleotide -1125 to about nucleotide +38 as set forth in Figure 1 (SEQ ID NO. 22) operatively linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a heterologous polypeptide, wherein the heterologous polypeptide is [a toxin, a growth factor, or] an oncogenic, tumorigenic, or immortalizing protein and is expressed in neurons of the transgenic mouse, and wherein the DNA sequence was introduced into the transgenic mouse or an ancestor of the transgenic mouse at an embryonic stage.

41. (Amended) A transgenic mouse generated by crossing a first mouse with a second mouse, wherein all of the germ cells and somatic cells of the first mouse contain a DNA sequence comprising a promoter of the β2-subunit of neuronal nicotinic acetylcholine receptor having the sequence from about nucleotide -1125 to about nucleotide +38 as set forth in Figure 1 (SEQ ID NO. 22) operatively linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a heterologous polypeptide, wherein the heterologous polypeptide is an oncogenic, tumorigenic, or immortalizing protein and is expressed in neurons of the first mouse, wherein the DNA was introduced into the first mouse or an ancestor of the first mouse at an embryonic stage, and wherein the neurons of the transgenic mouse express the heterologous polypeptide.

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43. (Twice Amended) A transgenic mouse as claimed in claim 41, wherein the endogenous DNA of the second mouse is not identical to the endogenous DNA of the first mouse.

44. (Twice Amended) A transgenic mouse as claimed in claim [43] 41, wherein the second mouse is a transgenic mouse containing a [DNA sequence] transgene different from [the] said DNA sequence of the first mouse.

46. (Amended) A process for producing a neuronal host cell that expresses a heterologous protein, comprising transferring to the neuronal host cell a DNA sequence comprising a promoter of the β2-subunit of neuronal nicotinic acetylcholine receptor having the sequence from about nucleotide -1125 to about nucleotide +38 as set forth in Figure 1 (SEQ ID NO. 22) operatively linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding the heterologous polypeptide under suitable conditions to cause expression of the heterologous polypeptide by the neuronal host cell, wherein the heterologous polypeptide is an oncogenic, tumorigenic, or immortalizing protein or is encoded by a reporter gene.

47. (Amended) The process according to claim 46, wherein the heterologous polypeptide is [a toxin, a growth factor, or] an oncogenic, tumorigenic, or immortalizing protein.

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54. (Amended) The process according to claim 53, wherein the heterologous polypeptide is [a toxin, a growth factor, or] an oncogenic, tumorigenic, or immortalizing protein.

55. (Amended) A process for producing a neuronal host cell that expresses a heterologous protein, comprising:

introducing a DNA sequence into a mouse at an embryonic stage, wherein the DNA sequence comprises a promoter of the β2-subunit of neuronal nicotinic acetylcholine receptor having the sequence from about nucleotide -1125 to about nucleotide +38 as set forth in Figure 1 (SEQ ID NO. 22) operatively linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding the heterologous polypeptide, wherein the heterologous polypeptide is an oncogenic, tumorigenic, or immortalizing protein or is encoded by a reporter gene; and

generating a transgenic mouse all of whose germ cells and somatic cells contain the DNA sequence and wherein the neurons of the transgenic mouse express the heterologous polypeptide.

58. (Amended) The process according to claim 55, wherein the heterologous polypeptide is [a toxin, a growth factor, or] an oncogenic, tumorigenic, or immortalizing protein.

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